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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO	
09/831,045	06/12/2001	Hiroyuki Fujimura	2001-0556A	8214	
513	7590 10/01/2004		EXAM	EXAMINER	
WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P.			DUONG, 1	DUONG, THANH P	
2033 K STRE SUITE 800	EET N. W.		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
	ON, DC 20006-1021		1764		
			DATE MAILED: 10/01/2004		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

1)⊠ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <i>QT September 2004</i> . 2a)☐ This action is FINAL. 2b)⊠ This action is non-final. 3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4)☑ Claim(s) <i>50</i> is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) <i>1-49 and 51-53</i> is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5)☐ Claim(s) <i>50</i> is/are allowed. 6)☑ Claim(s) <i>50</i> is/are rejected. 7)☐ Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8)☐ Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Application Papers 9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of: 1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.				CT.0				
Examiner Tom P Duong		Application No.	Applicant(s)	5.				
Time Poung 1764 The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. If the pends for reply specified shore is less than lithly (6) days, a reply whith the abbutory intimum or thisty (30) days will be considered tendy If the pends for reply specified shore is less than lithly (6) days, a reply whith the abbutory intimum or thisty (30) days will be considered tendy If the pends for reply specified shore is less than lithly (6) days, a reply whith the abbutory intimum or thisty (30) days will be considered tendy If the pends for reply specified above is less than lithly (6) days, a reply whith the abbutory intimum or thisty (30) days will be considered tendy If the pends for reply specified above is less than lithly (6) days, a reply which the abbutory intimum or thisty (30) days will be considered tendy If the pends for reply specified above is less than lithly (6) days, a reply which the abbutory intimum or thisty (30) days will be considered tendy If the pends for reply specified above is less than lithly (6) days, a reply which the abbutory intimum or thisty (30) days will be considered tendy If the pends for reply specified above is less than lithly (6) days, a reply which the abbutory intimum or thisty (30) days will be considered tendy If the above claim (5) The foreign of the corrumination, and it is a considered tendy If the above claim(5) 1_49 and 51.52 is fare withdrawn from consideration. If the above claim(6) 1_49 and 51.52 is fare withdrawn from consideration. If the consideration is objected to by the Examiner. If the pends of the consideration is objected to by the Examiner. If the pends of the priority documents have been received. If the drawing(6) filed on		09/831,045	FUJIMURA ET AL.					
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Page 2

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election of Group II (claim 50) in the reply filed on 9/7/04 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- 2. Claim 50 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Schoennagal et al. (4,298,453). Schoennagal discloses a gas reforming method comprising (Figs. 1 and 2): gasifying combustibles (coke) to produce a gas (synthesis gas) in a gasification process (Col. 10, lines 48-51); reforming (Col. 10, lines 59-62) said gas produced (via line 21) in said gasification process (20) using catalyst to produce a fuel gas (synthesis gas) in a reforming process; and recovering the catalytic activity of said catalyst (via line 17) by utilizing heat (heat

Art Unit: 1764

from regenerator 20) generated by combustion of char produced in said gasification process (Col. 11, lines 20-25 and Col. 12, lines 55-59).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tom P Duong whose telephone number is (571) 272-2794. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM - 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Caldarola can be reached on (571) 272-1444. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pairdirect.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (tollfree).

Tom Duona September 28, 2004

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Glenn Caldarola Supervisory Patent Examiner Technology Center 1700

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